GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:346
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
MEETINGS OF INTER-STATE COUNCIL
Purandeswari Smt. Daggubati

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Inter-State Council discusses all major issues concerning the State Governments;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the number of occasions it has met during the last three years alongwith the major issues discussed during the said period; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to further activate the council?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a)to(c): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.346 FOR 19.04.2005 REGARDING "MEETINGS OF INTER-STATE COUNCIL":

(a)&(b): The Inter-State Council discusses subjects, in which some or all of the States or the Union and one or more of the States have a common interest, as may be brought up before it. The Council also deliberates upon such other matters of general interest to the States as may be referred by the Chairman to the Council. So far the Inter-State Council has primarily discussed the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission.

During the last three years, the Inter-State Council has met once on 27-28 August, 2003. Previous to the meeting, 230 recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission had already been considered by the Inter-State Council. At the meeting on 27-28 August, 2003, the remaining 17 recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission were considered. In the above meeting, the Inter-State Council also considered 'Good Governance-An Action Plan' and issues relating to Contract Labour and Contract Appointments.

(c): Steps are being taken to identify and select new issues for its consideration in accordance with the duties assigned to it. Further, the council is also engaging itself in other areas such as preparing Action Plan on Good Governance, studying the status of Civil Service Reforms in the States, develop structure of National Appraisal of measures taken to implement the issues of Directive Principles of State Policy and studying the Inter-Governmental Consultative Process and Conflict Resolution Mechanism in other Federal/Democratic countries.